Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Hazwoper)

Functional Based Elective – Medevac

Notes for the Instructor

The PowerPoint slides that go with these scenarios contain instructions for the instructor. They contain information not in this document. We encourage you to read both this document and the PowerPoint instructor notes and become familiar with both before using them in a class.

We encourage instructors to make these scenarios applicable to their area. To that end, we have left the names of the ports and the vessels blank. Any other names are entirely fictional.

Although this scenario focuses on a SAR station response you could easily modify it for other audiences.

We encourage you to provide feedback to improve these scenarios. If you have suggestions for new scenarios please feel free to submit them.

Please make every effort to keep the focus of discussions on health and safety. Class participants will often want to expound on other subjects or bring up points that are not closely related to this subject matter.

Instructions for Activities

General This module contains a basic scenario that focuses on a SAR station

response. It doesn't specify a chemical so there is no "right" answer in

that regard. Feel free to alter the scenario to suit local needs.

Single Person Assign each class participant the tasks listed on the exercise scenario.

Instruct them to follow the visual presentation of the scenario and develop a list of the information the scenario requests. After an appropriate period of time, ask for a volunteer to give their feedback. When he/she is done, ask who has any other items to add. Facilitate a discussion of their views. Maintain the focus of all discussions on

health and safety issues.

Group Break the class into an appropriate number of groups (we suggest at

least three people per group). Assign each group the tasks listed on the exercise scenario. Instruct them to follow the visual presentation of the scenario and develop a list of the information the scenario requests. After an appropriate period of time, ask for a group to give their feedback. When they are done, ask who has any other items to add. Facilitate a discussion of their views. Maintain the focus of all

discussions on health and safety issues.

Options Have the participants write their lists on a white board or on flip chart

paper to make it easier for the other groups to see during their

presentations.

Impose a time limit on each activity. This will add stress to the activity and cause the participants to focus more intently on the task at hand.

Add an element of competition to the activity. If you impose a time limit you can also give an award or prize to the group or person who

compiles the biggest list.

Small Boat Ops Medevac Scenario Guide

Situation

At 0705 Sunday morning the SAR alarm goes off. You are underway within minutes and receive orders for a medevac of a crewmember from the Chem Sea, a vessel located in the inner anchorage. The crewmember reportedly has a compound fracture of his right leg. The plan is to have the crewmember lowered to the boat using the vessel's crane. As you approach the Chem Sea you see a clear liquid that appears to be ballast water pouring out of a hole in the bow of the vessel. The outgoing tide is carrying the spilled liquid down the length of the vessel. You try to raise the Chem Sea but are having difficulties in communicating due to language.

Tasks

List the hazards to USCG personnel health and safety.

Rank order these hazards from highest to lowest.

Describe actions you can recommend you plan to take to protect yourself and other crewmembers from the most immediate hazards. Describe the actions you would take concerning medevac of the crew member.

Instructions

Provide the training participants with the scenario using the handout or the PowerPoint slides.

Discuss the scenario with them and ensure they have the information necessary to answer the questions.

Provide other information if they request it.

Recognize

List the hazards to your health and safety.

Suggestions

The most immediate concern would be the clear liquid pouring from the bow of the vessel. The vessel is a chemical tanker and could be carrying toxic and/or flammable chemicals that could cause an immediate threat to the lives of the personnel on the 41 footer.

Other hazards include standard hazards from small boat operations. Coming alongside the tanker poses a crushing hazard between the 41 footer and the tanker. The lowering of the crewmember would cause a struck by hazard and a swinging litter could also knock someone overboard.

Evaluate

Rank order these hazards from highest to lowest.

Suggestions

The most immediate threat to life and health is the potential danger of the clear liquid. Although the liquid appears to ballast which would be consistent with a hole in the bow you do not know this for sure. There could also be internal structural damage that is spilling chemical product into the ballast tank. The OPCEN should be contacted to get cargo information from the vessel. The MSO should also be requested to assist in determining what may be leaking and what hazards may exist.

Control

Describe actions you can recommend to the 41 footer to protect them from the most immediate hazards. Describe any restrictions you would want to impose on the boat crew and what you will do about the injured crewmember.

Suggestions

The first action should be to get the 41 footer away from the spilling product and upwind until you can properly identify the spilling product and evaluate the hazards.

Contact the OPCEN and wait until you receive more information on the spilling liquid before approaching the vessel.

Unless the spilling product is determined to not be a hazard the other hazards related to coming alongside and receiving the litter will not come into play.